

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/786,110
Amendment dated January 29, 2004
Reply to OA of July 29, 2003

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Amend the specification as follows:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 22 and continuing to page 10, with the following rewritten paragraph:

B1

The base 5 is L-shaped, and is provided with a pair of shafts 5a which rotatably carry bearings 8 coupled to the ends of supports 6. The supports 6 are slightly curved in the form of Letter L in its plan view, and provided with L-shaped caster supports 9 at its front and rear ends. The bearings 8 include a groove in which a key 10 fits, thereby effecting a unitary rotation of the bearings 8 in accordance with the rotation of either of them. One of the bearings 8 is provided with a plate 11 projecting forward. The plate 11 is provided with a hole 11a through which a pin 12a secured to an operating lever 12 (which will be described below). The operating lever 12 is carried in a sleeve 13. The lever 12 is provided with a pin 12a eccentrically fixed to the lever 12 such that the rotation of the lever 12 causes one of the bearings 8 integral with the plate 11 to rotate. Then the other bearing bearings 8 follows follow the movement of the key 10. In this way, the width of the supports 6 of the chassis 4 is adjusted by operating the lever 12.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 12, line 2, with the following rewritten paragraph:

B2

Fig. 8 shows another example of the displacing device, in which like reference numerals denote like components and elements. A first bearing unit 40 is axially provided, and a second

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B2
bearing unit 41 is provided transversely both between the brackets 33 and 34 such that shafts 36 and 42 carried in the respective bearings can intersect. The brackets 33 and 34 have the same structure as those referred to above. The traverse bearing unit 41 is passed by a shaft 42 secured to the base of the arm 31, and the axial bearing unit 40 is pivoted by a shaft 36 between the ~~bracket~~ brackets 33 and 34. The shaft 42 is provided with a groove 42a at which it intersects with the shaft 36. A gap S3 is provided between the shafts 36 and 42, thereby ensuring that the arms 31 ~~is~~ are horizontally rotatable when they are positioned upward. As a result, the thigh supports 32 are spaced at an adequate interval.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 20, line 21, with the following rewritten paragraph:

B3
Referring to Figs. 27 to 29, the back upholstery 146 is composed mainly of a back section 146a and ~~an engaging section~~ sections 146b, the former being made of a solid but flexible material, so that the upholstery can be inserted between the back of the supportive chair (K) and the patient (M)'s back while conforming to the contour of the patient's back, and the engaging sections 146b are engaged with the engagers 145. The engaging sections 146b can be provided with several engaging spots shaped as shown in Figs. 27 to 29. Preferably, as shown in Fig. 28, the back upholstery is provided with a slit in its back section 146a, so that the back section 146a can have such a curved portion due to the slips as to conform to the contour of the patient's back.